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Humidity 89 " 79

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 1918.

香港三月七日英語

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE.

Improvement of British Positions.

London, July 1.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We rushed a post in Aveluy Wood on Sunday and raided, during the night, trenches at the west of Dernancourt. East County troops, early in the night, were engaged in a successful minor operation north-west of Albert. They took 34 prisoners, some machine guns and improved the positions. A counter-attack was beaten off. Hostile artillery is active north of Albert, south-east of Arras, east of Robecq, and in the neighbourhoods of Merri, and the Ypres-Comines Canal.

French Actions Yield 200 Prisoners.

London, July 1.
A French communiqué says:—We made several raids between Montdidier and Noyon and took a score of prisoners. We captured the enemy centre of resistance north of Cuise, taking twenty-six prisoners. We improved our positions between Paissy-en-Voisin and Villy and advanced our line to the east of the Chery-Villy Railway. A German counter-attack on our new positions south-east of Mosloy caused a lively fight, the result of which was that we integrally maintained our yesterday's gains. We took about two hundred prisoners in these actions.

Increasing Aerial Activity.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, telegraphing on July 1, says:—During the past month the war has resolved itself into an affair of bombing. Every fine night enemy planes are up, but their interference with our existence is only a fraction of what the enemy has to endure from ours. In Rhineland the sound of our engines never ceases in fine weather, and blazing buildings brightly illuminate the countryside. Last night's affair north of Albert was one of many recent acquisitions of ground which in the future we will turn to account. This is the second local advance in the same salient. We have now acquired a command of fire and observation of which we stand in need.

Sir Douglas Haig's Congratulations.

London, July 1.
The Press Bureau announces that Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig has congratulated Lieut.-General Haking and all ranks under his command on the success of June 28, redacting great credit on all concerned. He has also congratulated the Air Force for the brilliant and all-important assistance rendered to other arms throughout the recent operations.

THE CZECH-SLOVAKS.

Presentation of Regimental Colours.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at the French Headquarters, telegraphing on the afternoon of June 30, says:—President Poincaré to-day presented national standards to the Czech-Slovak regiments formed in France from volunteers belonging to Slav nationalities of Austria-Hungary, and regiments composed of kinsmen and co-nationals of Czech-Slovak soldiers captured by the Russians, mostly by voluntary surrender, early in the war, who are now fighting in Russia, and of the Czech-Slovak regiments of the Italian Army, who fought most gallantly on the Piave. Many have been Austrian soldiers and others are Slav emigrants from America. They know that they will receive no quarter if captured and the knowledge makes them more resolute to fight. The Czech-Slovaks wear the French uniform in France, with a distinctive national badge.

THE RUMANIAN PEACE.

Strange Speech by the Foreign Minister.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that in the Balkan Chamber, M. Arion, the Foreign Minister, declared that the hour of justice had struck. The country demanded from Parliament the fixing of responsibilities. Past mistakes must be stoned for and crimes punished. The Government must also carry out great financial reforms, as the war burdens exceeded £520,000,000. He added that he was always opposed to the war and concluded peace to save what was saveable, thanks to the credit he enjoyed with those with whom they had negotiated.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

Prince Arthur of Connaught on Its Value.

London, July 1.
The Times' correspondent at Tokyo says that Prince Arthur of Connaught, interviewed on his impressions of his visit, said that the people of all classes realised the value of the Alliance and felt that it guaranteed peace in the Far East and that everything should be done to strengthen this relationship. He had taken every opportunity of expressing appreciation of the Japanese Navy's work in the Mediterranean, which had received scant attention in the newspapers, and also the services in the Indian and Pacific Oceans which had been kept open to the world's trade by Japanese vigilance. "We on our part are fully conscious that Japan has behaved loyally throughout the war and is ready, if necessary, to employ her military, as she now employs her naval forces." Referring to the large gathering of British Indians at the Embassy, Prince Arthur spoke of the loyalty of India and said that the Indian community in Japan would further show its loyalty shortly by presenting an address.

THE RUBBER OUTLOOK.

Advice to Holders of Shares.

London, July 2.
The Financial Times says it is practically certain that the American restriction on the import of rubber will be only temporary, unless the war takes a very unfavourable turn, and when the stocks in America are reduced to a low ebb, recovery will set in. Under the circumstances, any reduction of output will lessen the danger of a serious fall in price, and Companies which can profitably "rest" their trees ought to do so to the fullest extent possible. But there is no need for panic, and shareholders should not allow themselves to be swayed out of their holdings. Whether any serious set-back is experienced will depend largely on the prudence of the managers of Companies.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

ANOTHER HOSPITAL SHIP TORPEDOED.

The "Llandovery Castle" Sinks in Ten Minutes.

London, July 1.
The Admiralty announces that the British hospital ship, the Llandovery Castle, was torpedoed at 10.30 the night of June 27, 116 miles south-west of Fastnet. The ship sank in ten minutes. It was homeward bound from Canada and there were, therefore, no sick and wounded on board. The crew consisted of 164 and the boat also carried eighty Canadian Army medical men and fourteen female nurses. Of the total of 258, one boatful of twenty-four has been landed. There is a bare possibility of others survivors. It must be noted that in this, as in all other instances, the German submarine had a perfect right to stop and search the hospital ship under the Hague Convention. It preferred, however, to torpedo the Llandovery Castle. The ship showed all navigating and the regulation hospital lights.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

Naval Officer Shot.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at Moscow, writing on June 23, says that Captain St. Chasny, formerly commander of the Baltic Fleet, has been shot.

The Ex-Tsar.

London, July 1.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Moscow, the reports of the murder of the ex-Tsar have been completely discredited.

German Colonists Arm.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at Kieff, writing on June 25, says that by order of the German authorities, German colonists in Tauride Government are arming.

THE BLACK SEA FLEET.

London, July 1.
In the House of Commons, replying to Mr. King, Mr. Bonar Law confirmed the report that a large part of the Russian Black Sea Fleet had unfortunately fallen into the hands of the German Government. He had reason to believe that Russian sailors sank some warships in order to prevent the Germans gaining possession of them.

ON THE ITALIAN FRONT.

London, July 1.
A British Italian official message states:—The situation is quiet. We carried out two raids, taking a few prisoners and inflicting many casualties. We destroyed six aeroplanes and drove down one uncontrolled. One British machine has not returned.

MR. PEMBERTON BILLING.

Frog-Marched Out of House of Commons.

London, July 1.
In the House of Commons, during a debate on National Service, the Speaker ordered Mr. Pemberton Billing to leave the Chamber for disorderly conduct. Mr. Billing refused to do so. The Sergeant at Arms was called in and Mr. Billing still refused, whereupon the sitting was suspended and attendants frog-marched him out of the Chamber.

GERMAN COLONISATION OF COURLAND.

London, July 1.
In connection with Baron von Kuehlmann's declaration in his last speech in the Reichstag that Courland was already regarded as German territory, a telegram from Kovno significantly states that General von Hindenburg has issued an order relative to the land question, paving the way for the German colonisation of Courland.

AUSTRALIAN LABOURITES AGAINST PEACE.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at Perth, West Australia, says that an enthusiastic meeting of the National Labour Party in the Town Hall, which was crowded, condemned and repudiated peace propaganda. Mr. Scadden, an ex-Labour Premier, declared that any man who suggested following Russia was a traitor.

A NEW PEER.

London, July 1.
Sir Arthur Lee, M.P., who in October last presented the estate, Chequers Court, as an official country residence for future Prime Ministers of England, has been raised to the Peerage.

EMPIRE SUGAR PRODUCTION.

London, July 1.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Page Croft asked:—Have the Government decided on a definite policy for sugar production within the Empire?

Mr. Bonar Law replied that the subject is being considered, and he is aware that the interest therein is Empire wide.

VLADIVOSTOK SOVIET DISSOLVED.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at Shanghai says that the Czechs have dissolved the Vladivostok Soviet.

THE CHINESE OPIUM DEAL.

Is it a Retrograde Step?

London, July 2.
Reuter's correspondent at Peking states that there is much perturbation at Mr. Balfour's remarks, which were cabled on June 21. It is considered that instead of marking the end of the opium traffic, the deal referred to by Mr. Balfour re-opens the whole of China both for cultivation and smoking and destroys years of magnificent anti-opium work in which China has effected the greatest social reform in her history. The Government intends to establish as vast opium gabelle, but hastens to announce the scheme.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE IMPERIAL WAR CONFERENCE.

The Command of Essential Raw Materials.

London, July 1.
The fourth, fifth and sixth meetings of the Imperial War Conference, held on June 24, 25 and 26, were almost exclusively devoted to the continuance of discussions on various phases of post-war economic policies. The Conference passed a resolution endorsing the principle of the United Kingdom Non-Ferrous Metal Act in pursuance of the policy of freeing the Empire from dependence on German-controlled organisations in respect to non-ferrous metals and ores, and recommended that the Governments of the Empire should make such arrangements among themselves as to ensure that essential raw materials produced within the Empire should be available for the purpose of securing to the Empire and belligerent Allies the command of certain essential raw materials to enable them to repair the effects of war as soon as possible and to safeguard their industrial requirements. The Governments of the Empire should also arrange with the Allies to utilise for the same purposes essential raw materials produced in Allied countries. The Conference passed a further resolution recommending that a Committee of the Conference should first consider possible methods whereby each part of the Empire could obtain command of the essential raw materials referred to in the previous resolution, and that the Governments represented at the Conference should, in the light of information collected by the Committee, consult representatives of producers and trades concerned regarding the method of obtaining command best suited to each commodity.

GERMAN COMMENT.

London, July 1.
The Times says that the meeting of the Imperial Conference has occasioned articles in the German Press, discussing the structure of the British Empire, by professors and other so-called experts. The writers are more modest than hitherto and apparently they are almost convinced that the war offers Germany no hope of seriously undermining British unity. Cossack has almost dropped out of the discussion, but Conservative journals cling to the hope that trouble can still be made between Japan and Australia about the future of the Pacific. Vorwärts, in a long article entitled "Greater Britain," admits that the Empire has manifested powerful military and political cohesion, supplemented by a strong tendency towards economic unity, and says a Customs Union is also likely, in which Britain must assist the development of the Dominions. Germany's only remaining hope is a quarrel between the Dominions and Great Britain owing to the failure of the latter to prevent the restoration of the German Colonies.

A SENSATIONAL TRIAL.

London, July 1.
Sir Joseph Jones (formerly Lord Mayor of Sheffield) and Charles Alfred Vernon, as well as the latter's father, named Carl, have been committed for trial on a charge of communicating information to the enemy. They pleaded not guilty.

Sir Joseph Jones' counsel said the defence was that the information complained of was given in the course of business and was in no wise intentionally anti-British.

AIR SERVICE MYSTERY.

London, July 1.
Sir David Henderson Resigns.

A refusal to disclose the nature of the differences between Lord Rothermere and Major-General Sir Hugh Trenchard was the subject of discussion in the House of Commons recently.

It was also announced that Sir David Henderson had tendered his resignation. Sir David is one of the two Vice-Presidents of the Council of the Air Ministry—the other being Sir Henry Norman.

Mr. Bonar Law, in reply to Mr. Pringle, said that before the resignation of General Trenchard was accepted the differences of policy between the General and Lord Rothermere came before the War Cabinet. It was not in the public interest to make a statement on the subject.

Mr. Pringle: Does not the right hon. gentleman recognise the ground that he felt unable to work with the new Chief of the Air Force (Major-General F. H. Sykes)?

Mr. Bonar Law: It may be there is public anxiety, but it is obvious one cannot discuss in public questions of principle of this kind.

Mr. Pringle: Is it not the case that the question of principle is not one affecting any war policy but refers simply to the methods of organisation on which leading experts of the air service have regard to efficiency in the field, whereas the Air Minister has regard to advertising in the Press?

Mr. Bonar Law: The hon. member is apparently giving his own version of the differences of principle.

Mr. Pringle: It is the true one. Mr. Bonar Law: I have said it is not desirable to discuss it.

Sir H. Vernay: Has the right hon. gentleman any idea of the dismay and disgust of the Air Service in France on what amounts to a dismissal of this gentleman?

Mr. Bonar Law: No, sir. It is obvious I cannot be expected to answer questions of this kind which must give rise to differences of opinion.

Mr. Hogge: As the Government have already got rid of great officers from the Navy, the Army, and from the Air Service, the right hon. gentleman say how long this practice is to continue of getting rid of competent people?

Mr. J. Joynton Hicks: Cannot the right hon. gentleman at any rate give us a little more information?

Answering a further question by Mr. Pringle, Mr. Bonar Law said the Vice-President of the Air Council, Sir David Henderson, had tendered his resignation on the subject.

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TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph")

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, July 2.
The silver market is quiet, and was closed on Monday.

THREE TO ONE.

Odds Against General Gough's Army.

Belfast, Ireland, May 4.—Gen. Sir Robert Gough's first public statement regarding the conduct of the 5th British Army, which he commanded in the retreat from St. Quentin, comes in the letter to the Lord Mayor of Belfast.

"The fighting of the Ulster division as, indeed, of all the divisions in the 5th Army, against the greatest odds hurled on any body of troops throughout this great war, was magnificent. The main features of the situation to which the whole 5th Army was exposed are known to everyone, and gives some idea of what those odds were—fourteen infantry divisions against forty German divisions on March 21; reinforced by some eighty to ten more German divisions during the subsequent two days.

(A British division was nominally 20,000 at the beginning of the war, but this number has been reduced, according to Lieut. Col. Repington, in some cases to as low as 5,000 men. But estimating a division at 14,000, which is the present German strength, Gen. Gough had only 196,000 men against 589,000 of the enemy when the attack began and these troops were reinforced by 112,000 to 140,000 men.)

"I cannot speak too highly of the splendid calmness and doggedness with which many fellow countrymen met and fought this storm, and though many laid down their lives their splendid tenacity saved the British Empire and France by permitting the arrival of reserves."

"The Corps Commander has issued an order thanking all ranks for the fighting spirit they displayed and reminding them that further deeds of gallantry will be required of them in the coming months."

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French Commerce.

The decision of the French
Government to abrogate all commercial treaties containing a
favoured nation clause is regarded as France's first step in the
economic offensive. The significance of the step will be better grasped if we realize

that it is not directed against the Entente countries or neutrals. The French stand-point in that France's economic development has been shackled since 1871, when Germany, by the Treaty of Frankfort, obtained the benefit of the favoured nation clause—an advantage which she has also reserved to herself in the Brest-Litovsk Treaty, which is not admitted by the Allies.

France is at present tied to different countries by 52 treaties and conventions. She now desires a free hand so that she can revise or reconstruct these treaties. It is stated that she has taken this step in full agreement with her Allies, and so far as can be gathered her intention is to place

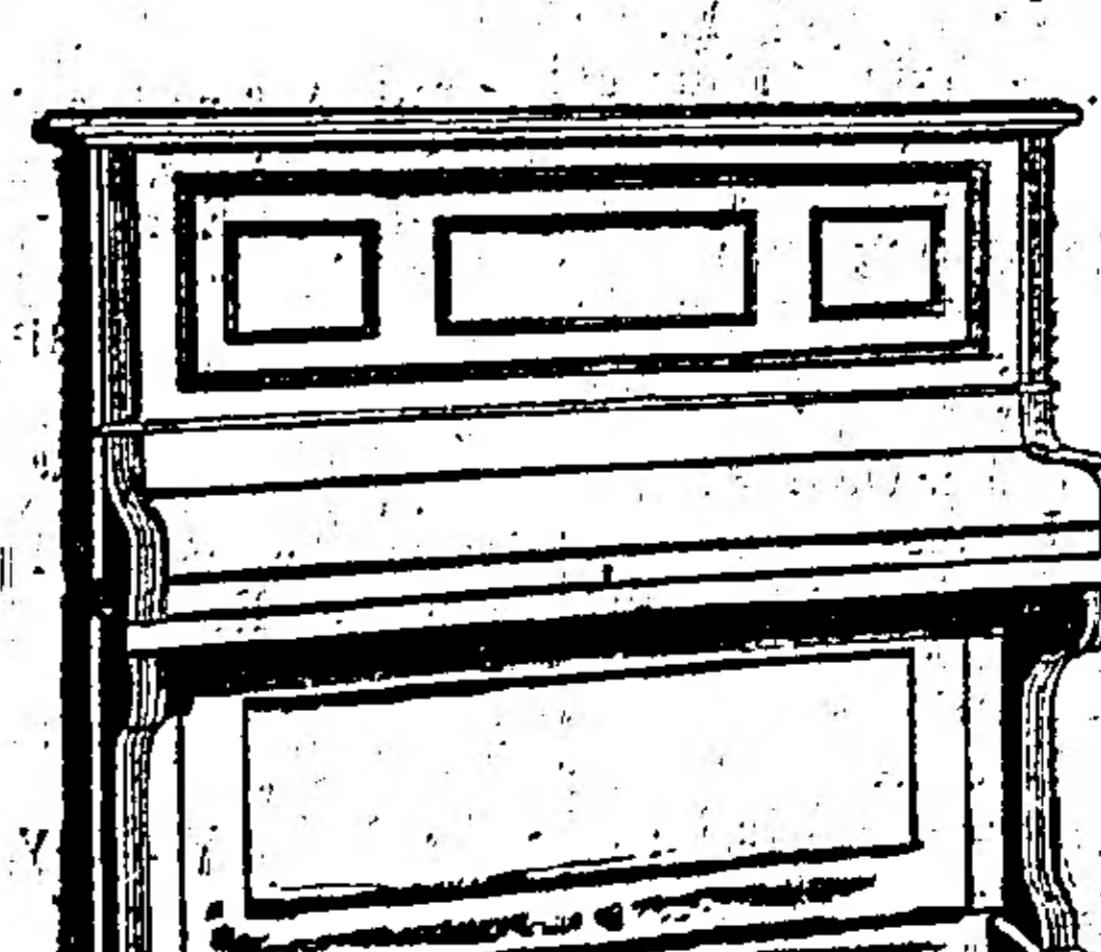
Allies, neutrals, and enemies each in a different category.

Sacks made of Paper.

The inventor of a paper "sack" for packages sought the renewal of his exemption at Southwark Tribunal recently. He is secretary and manager of a textile engineering firm, and he said that with another man he had just invented and installed at the firm's works a new machine to make potato bags out of paper, the Government having granted them a license for 1,000 tons of paper to manufacture the material. He produced specimens of the texture made from the paper, and also large bags, the new material, which is waterproof, being closely examined by the tribunal and the National Service representative.

Germany had been making paper sacks for years, it was stated. The certificate was withdrawn, and the man granted six months' exemption instead.

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GENERAL NEWS.

The Coffin Parlour.
Our houses were still built on the principles in use in the time of the Purarchs, said Mr. Frank Barnes, Principal Architect of the Office of Works, at the Royal Sanitary Institute. Referring to the difficulties of the parlour question, some people thought it ought to be small and poky, others thought that children should do lessons in it, that the piano should stand there, and that coffins should be kept there in case of bereavement.

The American Uniform.
The severe simplicity of the American uniform will be further accentuated, it is announced, by the removal of shoulder straps and other distinctly military appurtenances in the interest of economy. The high collar of the present uniform will be discarded; it is understood, in favour of the unstiffened roll after the style of the British tunics. No canvas will be used in the coats, and the patch-pocket will be done away with, a regular pocket with a flap covering taking its place.

Ruhleben Prisoners Pictures.
During his two years of internment at Ruhleben, Mr. John Wiggins, the artist, put his impressions on canvas, and the result is to be seen in 47 of his paintings at the Carfax Salons, Bury-street, St. James's, W., an exhibition of which was opened recently. Mr. Wiggins for twenty years lived in Brussels. When the Germans captured the city, they deported Mr. Wiggins to Germany. His pictures convey every aspect of life at Ruhleben, one of the most striking of his efforts being "The Roll Call."

Notable Woman Freemason.
An event of interest in the Masonic world has just taken place. The order of Universal On Masonry, which admits women to Masonic privileges on equal footing with men, has just initiated Miss Alicia St. Leger Aldworth, great-great-granddaughter of the original lady Freemason—a daughter of a former Viscount Doneraile. The story of the escapade by which she found her way into Freemasonry is well known—how she had secreted herself in a room adjoining a lodge, and on being discovered was given the option of death or being made a Free-mason and then bound to secrecy.

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GENERAL NEWS.

famous Family Bible. copy of Peterborough, at the British and Bible Society meeting, and in his possession a singing to his greater, the celebrated Fry. It was thumbed marked all over, and not a page which had handwriting on it. He said whether Bibles were those nowdays.

for An Army List, the Red Cross said at a copy of the Army List at 1914, with a record of the "Contemptible Army" and a number of photos of leading officers, including Lord Kitchener, Sir Haig, and Lord French, for £20 to Sir Charles Field. The Prime Minister's on his "go on or go under" to Labour representatives sought for 24 guineas. The for the day was £4.21. Wanting Welsh Melody, all but a few of the county schools, the neglect of music is terrible, says the 1917 report of Welsh Department of the Board of Education. "It is cause a serious national loss; it may be too much to say that there less knowledge of singing in Wales now than there was 20 years ago. In musical promise can confidently be asserted that Wales is second to no country in the world, but music is crowded out by the numerous examination subjects in the great majority of schools."

Praise for Specials. London's Chinatown and the Embankment late at night were among the points of interest visited by American delegates recently. At Limehouse a number of special constables were paraded for their inspection, and drew from them a warm tribute of praise. They were also shown in detail the system of registering aliens. The delegates were later to go to Rosyth to see something of the British Navy, and also to visit shipbuilding works on the Clyde and a large munition-making colony.

The War Cabinet. In the House of Commons recently, Major Hunt asked whether, in view of the fact that the War Cabinet did not contain any members with any practical knowledge of war by sea or land, and in view of the mistakes made by the various Cabinets during the war, the Prime Minister could add to the War Cabinet Admiral Lord Jellicoe and General Sir William Robertson. Mr. Bonar Law:—"The Government is not prepared to adopt the suggestion. Major Hunt asked what was the use of War Cabinet when nobody on it understood anything about war. Mr. Bonar Law:—"That is rather a difficult conundrum."

£70,000 in the Prize Court. Sir Samuel Evans, in the Prize Court, condemned as prize nearly £70,000, the proceeds of sale of three cargoes on British steamships. The first was £43,805 for a cargo of barley from the Black Sea brought by the steamer Elswick Lodge, belonging to the Elswick Steamship Co., of Newcastle. Twenty-six bills of lading showed German buyers. Shipment was before the war. The second case concerned £20,000 worth of gas oil, shipped at Port Arthur, for the German Europaische Petroleum Co., and in the third case the proceeds were £3,123 for barley and rye on the steamship Leander.

Lost Argentine. Sir William Haggard, formerly British Minister to the Argentine, at Carlton Hall recently, said that owing to the country's prosperity and because the whole place was weighted down with English gold and English railways, revolutions had come to an end. The Germans saw how important it was to us to get our supplies from there, so they had stirred up strikes to prevent supplies coming down to the ships. This country might have had that great land, and for nothing, and it would have been the second most important country in the world to us. He saw a very great authority at the Foreign Office about that country, and was told: "I consider Norway far more important than the Argentine." That man—a nobleman—had since been considered worthy of holding the highest honour under the British Crown.

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GENERAL NEWS.

BARONET'S BIGAMY.

Death of Aged Scientist. Rev. Sir Douglas Scott. Sentenced to Hard Labour.

Pleading at the Old Bailey recently for the Rev. Sir Douglas Edward Scott, who was charged with bigamy, counsel asked the Recorder to regard the second marriage as "an episode of an old man's passion."

Mr. Percival Clarke, prosecuting, said Scott, who was 54, went through a form of marriage with Mrs. Williams, an assistant at the refreshment room at Reading Station, having told her that his wife died two years ago. Pretending that he was a commander in the Navy, he obtained a uniform with decorations and tendered bogus cheques.

Det-Sergt. Parkiss said Scott, in his early days, had been in the Mercantile Marine. He was ordained in 1905, when he also succeeded to the baronetcy on the death of his cousin. Although the title brought no money, he later inherited two fortunes of £7,000 and £4,000. Becoming engaged to a well-connected young lady in the north, he inserted in the newspaper a fraudulent

statement of Lady Scott's death. The banns were published, but the lady's father, secreted the facts. Scott was an undischarged bankrupt, and had been defrauding people by means of cheques.

Mr. O'Malley, who defended, said Lady Scott was willing to forgive and look after her husband.

The Recorder, describing Scott's conduct as disgraceful and saying that he had prostituted his sacred office, passed sentence of eighteen months' hard labour.

A German in Paris. A German wearing the uniform of a French soldier was recently arrested on a Paris boulevard under extraordinary circumstances. Though he had a French military book he could not, when challenged, produce his leave card. According to the confession which he made he belonged to a Bavarian regiment which was brought from Russia to take part in the great offensive which, he said, was intended to smash the French lines, hurl the British into the sea, and so end the war. His regiment was so terribly cut up in the battle that he decided

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"BARBED WIRE DISEASE."

Unconscious Turkish Joke in War Prisoners' Agreement.

Lord Newton referring in the House of Lords recently to the recognition by the Turkish Government of the agreement regarding exchange of prisoners said that at first the Turks had no desire to exchange any prisoners at all.

The "battle" of exchanges had been fought round the name of one man, a Turk. He was the one prisoner the Turks were most

anxious to get back, and he was a most valuable asset.

Lord Newton mentioned that of the conditions insisted upon by the Turks, was that plain wire should be substituted for barbed wire round the Turkish prisoner camps in British territory. The Turks had read in the papers of what was called "barbed wire disease." Of course the description was but a paraphrase of "nervous breakdown," but the Turks were under the impression that this was a communicable disease obtained by persons coming into contact with barbed wire. (Laughter.)

The basis of exchange would be 1,000 British for 1,500 Turks.

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By Order, "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 1918.

THE DECIMAL SYSTEM.

There are days when reform is in the air, and it is therefore not surprising that occasion should be taken of the feeling of broad-mindedness engendered by the war to press once again for the revision of the British system of coinage by placing it on a decimal basis. The Association of Chambers of Commerce has recently had under consideration the draft of Decimal Coinage Bill, and from the observations which we have seen in the Home papers it would appear that the principles underlying this measure are gradually gaining favour among the business men of the Old Country. That is only what would reasonably be expected, for when the matter is looked into it will be found that the reform is urgently needed, not only to bring us into line with all other modern countries, but for the sake of simplification.

The other day, we gave some details of the means by which the decimal system could very easily be applied to British coinage. It was shown in that article that the humble penny was at the bottom of the trouble, and that it would be a simple matter to effect the necessary changes by introducing a new coin to take the place of that unit of currency. The suggestion is that the sovereign should be divided into a thousand parts, the decimal system being followed right down to the lowest value coin. The point naturally suggests itself that if the advantages of reform are so obvious it is strange that the step now urged has not been taken before. One writer ascribes the inaction to popular ignorance, plus the inertia of a conservative race. The two factors undoubtedly have played an important part in the matter. For this is no new suggestion which is now being put forward. It is re-called in one of the Home papers that it was close on a century ago that British business men agitated for the adoption of the decimal system and well over fifty years since the Bank of England subscribed a hundred pounds to the funds of the Decimal Association with the idea of giving the movement an impetus. And yet some eleven years ago when the last Metric Bill was presented to the House of Commons the second reading was rejected by a large majority.

It does not require much thought to realize that the "all-ten" system has everything to command it, and at a time when ease and rapidity of calculation are sought after, its adoption by Great Britain, both in regard to coinage and weights and measures, would be all to the country's advantage. We in Hongkong know how easily a British system of decimal coinage can work, and business people must often have occasion to deplore the awkwardness of the Home system when it comes to the adjusting of accounts and the making of other comparative calculations. It has well been said that there cannot be freedom of trade until those with whom we have commercial dealings understand us and we them with the least possible loss of time and calculation. Therefore, considering the general prevalence of the decimal system, it would assuredly be a wise move on our part to bring ourselves into line with other nations. The arguments in favour of a decimal coinage are unanswerable, and we should much like to see the reform introduced, while the present spirit of revising defective systems is manifesting itself.

Japan's Part.

In his interview on the impression of his visit to Japan, Prince Arthur of Connaught, who is no stranger to that country and who is immensely popular among our Far Eastern Allies, did well to dwell upon Japan's loyalty in the war. He spoke of the part she had played and of what she would do if called upon, and we may take it that these were no idle words, but were based upon definite knowledge. It is in naval matters that Japan has most assisted the Allies. The extent of her work in this direction has been far greater than is generally imagined, and Prince Arthur was only expressing the truth when he observed that the operations in the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean and the Pacific had been largely instrumental in keeping open the world's trade. There is one remark of Prince Arthur's which might be read as reflecting somewhat on the Press. He mentioned the Japanese Navy's work in the Mediterranean as having "received scant attention in the newspapers." That, however, is no fault of the Press, for the rigid censorship regulations naturally operate against any detailed mention of those operations. In common with other papers, we have on many occasions spoken in terms of high praise of what Japan's naval ships have done in this particular sphere, and that that work is deeply appreciated by the Allies as a whole, there can be no doubt whatever.

Germany and The Imperial War Conference.

The Germans, it would seem from the articles appearing in their Press, are very much concerned regarding the meetings of British War Conference, which are at present being held in London. And they have good reason to feel so concerned, for even the superficial knowledge such as they possess of the importance of the Conference is sufficient to cause them no little anxiety. Never before has the Conference assumed so much of an Imperial character and never before has it manifested so plainly that it stands for the British Empire in all its power, strength and majesty. That the Conference looks not to the past but to the future is evident from the nature of the subjects being discussed, which appear to be, with few exceptions, relating to post-war economic problems.

Valuable Lessons Taught.

The war has taught us many valuable lessons and none more valuable than that the British Empire, if it will, can be independent of the whole world for the various commodities required in our different manufactures. Before the war we were far too much inclined to rely upon Germany and other countries for essential natural products and commodities such as dyes and chemicals, which experience has since shown can be produced within the Empire. Raw materials of various kinds can also be abundantly supplied without going further than our own borders. These facts, always well-known to most British businessmen, will no longer be overlooked, and one of the great results of such a policy will certainly be an Empire more closely united and more self-supporting than the world has ever before known. The Germans are as dismayed at what is being done that all they can suggest is that they continue their insidious attempts to undermine British unity by endeavouring to cause quarrels to arise between different parts of the Empire. But they are too late in the day; as nothing they can do will ever have the slightest effect upon the splendid solidarity that is now everywhere manifested in the Empire and which has made it more closely united than ever.

Conscription for Women.

Sir Wm. Bull, M. P., is drafting a Bill for the Conscription of women for national service between the ages of 19 and 31, which it is intended to bring before Parliament.

DAY BY DAY.

SOBRIETY, SANITY, HEALTH,
GOOD ORDER AND POSITIVE USE-
FULNESS TO HUMANITY ARE ALL
PRIMAL REQUISITES IN EDUCATION.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is Independence Day in the United States.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3s. 3d.

Discharged.

A Chinese was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning with being a vagabond and sleeping in the street. There was also found on him a number of pawn tickets. One of defendant's fobs appeared to speak on defendant's behalf and said accused was returning to his shop that night and as he did not want to disturb the occupants he remained in the street. His Worship discharged defendant with a caution.

The Colony's Health.

During last week there were notified 29 cases of spotted fever (27 fatal), 22 of plague (18 fatal); 11 of enteric (all fatal), two fatal occurrences of diphtheria and one non-fatal case of pulmonary fever. All the sufferers were Chinese save one Filipino suffering from enteric. During yesterday there were notified six cases of spotted fever (all fatal), 12 of plague (eight fatal) and one fatal case of enteric. All the sufferers were Chinese.

Too Many Lights.

Mr. G. H. M. Bannerman, of the Hongkong Electric Co., summoned the manager of the Sunlight Co., of 18, Pottinger Street, this morning with having erected two extra lights in his establishment. It appeared the defendant was away in Canton when the summons was served and someone else appeared on his behalf. Mr. Bannerman said when he called at the premises defendant offered to apologize for what he had done. Mr. J. R. Wood adjourned the case, and a warrant will be issued for defendant's arrest as soon as he returns.

WAR COMFORTS.

City Hall Work Party.

During the month of June, the City Hall Work Party packed the following:—38 mosquito nets, 518 handkerchiefs, 56 pairs slippers, 14 pairs bed-boots, 112 milk covers, 10 head-bandages, 36 many tailed bandages, 32 stump-bandages, 16 reversible bed-jackets, 29 dressing-gowns, 195 suits pyjamas, 15 vermin shirts, 12 cotton shirts, 85 bed jackets, 19 surgical suits, 96 shrouds, 27 pairs socks, 6 helmets, 187 vests, 153 shirts, 20 small pillows, 12 packets playing-cards, 26 scrubbers, 1 surgical cap, 2 night-shirts, 3 pairs bed-sheets, 2 pairs knee-caps, 10 surgical shirts, 5 mufflers and by kind contribution 11 bed-jackets. These were packed in seven cases, three of which were sent to the Red Cross distributing centre at Bombay, two to the 15th General Hospital, Alexandria, and two to Mrs. A. E. Barton, Rawal Pindi, India.

The Wool Department packed 384 pairs socks, 25 caps, 62 pairs knee-caps, and 3 pairs operation stockings.

The Mothers' Union's contribution to the Jane's packing, consisted of 7 vests, 9 shirts, 8 pairs socks, 8 suits pyjamas, 8 bed-jackets, 12 milk covers, 12 handkerchiefs, 6 head-bandages, 1 pair gloves, and 2 night-shirts.

E. LAMMERT.

(for Mrs. N. J. Stabb.)

A letter has been recently received from Miss Rutherford, Assistant Matron of the Royal Herbert Hospital at Woolwich, an extract of which we publish below, and we are going to forward a copy thereof of the articles she asks for:—"I wonder if you would let the Ladies of the City Hall Work Party know that I would very much appreciate a box of articles for the Hospital here. The usual dressings will be most acceptable, with pyjama suits, triangular bandages, and open-backed shirts, added in addition."

VICTORY A MATTER OF CONVICTION.

Sanguine Estimate of French General.

"It was at Jena; at Marengo, which made Napoleon; at Waterloo, which unmade him, when Blucher came up in the evening." And, appropriate as it would have been, the General did not add that was supremely so in the no less momentous battle of Mondement-Fere-Champenoise in September 1814. Foch and his lieutenants have indeed won the right to preach this doctrine.

What then, of to-morrow? We are nearing the end of the trial, if not the execution. We know what we have before us. We cannot yet say that this is the last battle, but we can say that it is the decisive battle, because the enemy has thrown into it the mass of his resources, and his failure will be decisive. The Allied armies, moved by a single will and governed by the idea of the last stroke for victory will say the last word.

"We have husbanded our strength," the general insisted.

"We have arrested the enemy, and now hold him firmly. Thanks to a superior artillery and a greatly superior aviation, we are wearing him down.

"If it has not succeeded in a month, what prospect of success has it? It can strike some more severe blows. But we are daily better prepared, and daily their case is worse.

"Up to now, in less than four weeks, a number of German divisions have been engaged. Perhaps more divisions can be thrown into the battle. On the other hand, many of those now in line are in lamentable state, and others, brought back for the second or third time can be little better.

"For the first time the German 1919 class has been used to a considerable extent to complete effectives. Very soon, with British and American reinforcements, we shall have the margin we want."

Finally, the General spoke of the difference of moral on the two sides, "the most important factor." The German rank and file entered the battle in high enthusiasm. They were newly clad and rested, they see around them all the signs of a prodigious preparation, a machinery and a method the power of which was evident, but not the costliness in flesh and blood.

A careful propaganda had turned their wishes into thought that all this must be irresistible, that the war would be ended and peace won by crushing the two chief Allies, France and England, before America could come into the field. Their disillusionment must be proportionate to these hopes, and, in fact, it is markedly visible among the prisoners.

Our men, on the other hand, have learned to wait, and can wait. They understand and appreciate how they are husbanded, they understand their cause, and they would all say with the general that it is "Against nature" that it should fail. Well, may it be said of such an issue that "Victory is a matter of conviction."

THAT TIRED FEELING.

These mornings is most likely due to "liver." The remedy is

PINKETTES.

The little laxatives which aid digestion, cure Constipation, liverishness, dizziness, bilious headaches, foul smelling breath. Of all chemists, and post free, 60 cents the phial, from Dr. Williams' Medicines Co., 96 Szochuan Road, Shanghai.

U.S. Import and Export Rates.

In place of the cancelled export and import rates, which were omitted from the originally announced policy of basing all transcontinental charges on the flat domestic rate, special rates for imports approximating an increase of from 40 to 100 per cent over former carload import rates, and an increase on the barload export rate west from Chicago of some 60 per cent, have gone into effect, say cablegrams received at the office of the Governor General and by local commercial firms.

And here was another characteristic thing, a characteristic omission. The General had been speaking of the mechanism of battle and the decisive importance of enduring till the proverbial last quarter of an hour. Two great armies face each other in line. They grapple, feeling their way, strike here or there to find a weak place, wear each other down, and at length the crisis comes when one of them attempts a decisive maneuver. And other things being equal, it is then who can throw in a sufficient mass who wins. So nearly always the greatest battles of history were fought until evening, when a final stroke turned the scales.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

In these days of stirring deeds in the air it may surprise many people to learn that recently, in a discussion which arose in a R.F.C. mess in France on the pluckiest flying deed on record, first place was given to Blériot's memorable cross-Channel flight. Only those who have flown know the capital value to the airmen of confidence in his machine. The dual engine is the dark spectre of his dreams, and yet Blériot crossed the Channel on a machine which had never remained in the air for the time he calculated it would take him to make his Channel flight, and one of his gravest doubts was the machine's ability to reach England with sufficient height to clear the cliffs.

No great sex triumph can be claimed in the announcement that six ladies have been appointed at St. John's, Tottenham, for the office has lost much of its dignity and usefulness. When sidemen were syndromes, their duties were to hale all persons suspected of heresy before a Church. But nowadays the functions of their office are fulfilled in lending assistance to the churchwardens.

On a train travelling from Halifax to Montreal a soldier's wife belonging to the latter city gave birth to twins. The interesting feature of the event for those outside the home circle is the fact that the first baby to arrive, a boy, was born in United States territory, and the second baby, a girl, in Canada. So the boy born in the U.S.A. must remain an "infant" until he is 21, when he will have the choice of remaining an American or becoming a Canadian citizen.

Speaking generally we have not found smokers inclined to murmur against the new tobacco duty. The extra 2d., though a rather big jump, will in many cases be more than counterbalanced by the new "wife allowance." Moreover, the patriotic smoker is no longer in a quandary, for the Chancellor makes it quite clear that the additional tax is to help pay for the war and is not intended as a deterrent. "I have impressed upon the Shipping Controller," he told us, "that in importing tobacco he is importing money." A cheery invitation to light up and look pleasant!

Although we have not hitherto had a three-halfpenny post in within living memory. We associate it with Dickens and Thackeray, but its origin was of the seventeenth century. It was founded on the "penny post" set up in London and the suburbs by Mr. Robert Murray, an upholsterer, in 1633. He assigned his interest in the undertaking to Mr. Dockwra, a merchant, but on a trial in the King's Bench it was adjudged to belong to the general post, and was annexed to the Crown in 1640. The "two-penny post" lasted, with a short interval, until 1840, when Rowland Hill's penny post was adopted.

Two generations of junior reporters will be sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Fenwick, the Northumberland Labour member (writer a veteran Pressman) for without doubt he was the most delightful speaker, from the reporter's point of view, who ever addressed an audience. His delivery was extremely slow and deliberate—so slow that the veriest shorthand novice could easily take down and transcribe every word that the speaker uttered. A great deal more peace of mind would be enjoyed by shorthand reporters if there were a few more orators of the Fenwick type.

The admission of Admiral von Capelle that the U boat war has been a failure moves the Hamburg *Nachrichten* to a fierce denunciation for more and yet more activity. "Our U boats in the long run cannot fail to bring about England's utter collapse. The U-boat war is the surest—nay, the only sure mortal weapon against England." Therefore let us keep our sinking, sinking, and always sinking every ship at sight."

WAR COMMENT.

A Home Letter to Soldiers Overseas.

London, May 7th.—There is spring in the air, grey, drab, busy old London has taken on a new colour and a new jauntiness in the spring sunshine. In front of the house where I am writing a plane tree and a chestnut, that only a few days ago stood stark naked in their winter gauntless, seem to have decked themselves in a single night in their summer green. I could swear they had nothing on the last time I looked at them.

On my desk a blitz of scarlet geraniums, and slender white narcissi, with their ears pressed back, bring right home to me the transition from winter to summer. And when I walk out in the streets the seagulls on the Embankment have given place to pigeons, and the midshipmen on shore leave have exchanged their blue caps for white with the coming of May. There is new life in this old London of ours. The grimness of war seems, for the moment, further away than a week or two ago, especially as the news from France grows better every day. There is hope in the air and the fruit trees are blossoming and the birds are piping. After all it isn't such a bad war.

That is what an English spring means to us who are watching events with so much anxiety from afar. I wonder if spring in France has not also some cheering message for those who are steeped in the bloody business of battle. I wonder if it helps to remind the war-worn and weary that there is something outside all the filth and ferocity of fighting that is worth fighting for. Nature goes on all the time tinging the world with beauty. The sun shines down even upon No Man's Land. Even amid the desolation of Armageddon the crocuses push their heads shyly through the grass and the rums, and there are blushing glories of poppies that move poets to song and waken something or other in the hearts of mere ordinary men like ourselves.

I am sure there must be a good deal of the spirit of home in the hearts of you men overseas—I don't mean only homesickness, though God knows you must suffer from that, but home-love, home-memories, love of England—or Scotland or Ireland or Wales or Manxland. I can see it shining out of the faces of the wounded in the ambulances, as they reach home. There are good, kindhearted women who wait at the terminus stations to meet the hospital trains and shower flowers on the wounded, as though to say:—"Thank you for all you have done for us." And they are amply rewarded for their trouble by the grateful smiles they receive in return. There is nothing more wonderful in Blighty to-day than the smiles and the cheeriness of the boys in battock blue. I never used to believe the people who wrote of "the cheerful spirit of our wounded." I thought it was mere journalistic 'fiam.' But it's true, marvellously true. Since I visited hospitals and had talks with some of the men in the wards I have been busy recommending a hospital visit as a cure for damps and depression.

That is why I feel quite confident that the Prime Minister is speaking [by] the book when he says, on his return from the Front:—"The Message I bring from the British Army to the people at home is 'Be of good cheer: we are all right.' The British Army always has been all right. There are still a few cynics and pacifists among us, of not much account but with a mighty belief in their own importance, who ridicule such a statement. They are men who have never been touched with the spirit of sacrifice, men who have never anointed a ha'porth of discomfort themselves and simply don't understand the feeling that makes us want to 'do our bit' for our country. They go on yapping about "universal brotherhood" and "peace by negotiation". As if there ever could be brotherhood between a British seaman and the seamen who fire on women and children in open boats! As if there could be

negotiation with an unbeaten people who still to-day are breaking every law of humanity and every treaty, convention and agreement to which they have ever signed their names.

There is an old catch-phrase which has lately become popular in town. It has been going about for years, I believe; at any rate a friend of mine tells me he used to hear it in Gallipoli. But it's only recently that I heard it at a music hall. "That's the stuff to give 'em." I am reminded of it by the statement of a German officer after a recent show down near the Somme. "We had good men like that once" he said, talking of the men who had made him prisoner, "but look at what we have got now." He pointed to a couple of hundred sorry-looking Boches guarded by a handful of British and Australian soldiers. "I have seen our big men gradually go down since the beginning of the war, and these are the men who are left to Germany now." He was very depressed, and little wonder, for he had come up against the British fighting man at his best, just as did the thirteen Boche divisions that met about three of ours on April 29th between Vormeuse and Ridge Wood. Then they went back with their tails down. The British fighting man—"That's the stuff to give 'em" every time. And the French fighting man too, if it comes to that, for we have learnt just exactly what a dam good fighter the poiks is.

You who live overseas have one thing at any rate to be thankful for—you are safe from the untiring activities of Dora. Dora is the presiding deity of our lives at home. Strong men are powerless, when Dora puts her foot down. There never was a suffragette so masterful as Dora. Her powers are enormous and she is no respecter of persons. Only a day or two ago a Justice of the Peace was fined £5 for allowing his coachman to feed a sick horse on oats. "If you think the practice should be discontinued," he wrote to the court trying the case, "will you tell us what we should feed it on?" The bench was unable to advise, but said that Dora forbade horses to be fed on oats and what Dora said went. Dora is an absolute tyrant, but we all obey her just because she is D.O.B.A.—the Defence of the Realm Act. We submit to her orders because we know that it is all part of the Great Contribution towards winning the war. Dora's latest is to forbid the manufacture of dog biscuits. When I told my dog, he threatened to go on hunger strike. But Dora doesn't care; I suppose I must just look pleasant about it. But I feel inclined to send her this bit of doggerel, just to express my feelings in the matter:—

It isn't any use to frown
When Dora puts her trilly down.
She must not be disobeyed
By man or wife or boy or maid;
To her methods we're resigned,
For if we flout her we'll get fined
By her minions we'll be chased
If we ever dare to waste.
Food, especially cereals,
And all sorts of materials.
Cats and dogs must not be fed
On milk or biscuits, meat or bread.
For a horse a diet osten
Is most rigidly scrupulous.
Dora.

She even bans my naughty jokes,
She bans our food, she bans our drink,
It's hardly even safe to think,
She bans our coal and bans our gas.
She must be an a-ban-doned lass
I only hope that, after the war, a
Ban will be placed on Mam'selle

Dora.

The wife a young Cockney, I knew in the Umpteenth Battalion of the London Regiment, who used to say:—"It's all very well their cluckin' bokays at us and callin' us 'bloomin' 'eroes' and blazin' patriots and all that. But wait till peace breaks out and you go back to your grateful country and ask one of 'em for a job. They'll say:—"Wat, you enlisted, did you, without waitin' to be fetched. Foolish fella, I'm sorry, my lad, but there's nothin' doin' er... Er, Jenkins, will you show this person the way out. Goo-ood morning." My friend was a pessimist—also he had heard of what happened to soldiers after other wars. But is isn't true of this war. The country really is

FAMILY LITIGATION.

Interesting Point in Chinese Custom.

A somewhat involved, but nevertheless interesting, case is being fought out at the Supreme Court this week, before the Chief Justice, Sir William Beech Davies.

The story of the dispute is that several years ago, an old Chinese, living in a small village, died, leaving a considerable amount of property behind him. He also left a will, and, according to this, his estate was to be divided into ten parts, six parts of which were to be set aside as ancestral worshipping funds controlled by his "sons and grandsons forever." The other four portions were allotted to various members of the family. A dispute arose over the leaving of the six parts for ancestral worship, and after legal proceedings it was decided that the deceased had no right to leave the money as he did and that the money would have to be divided among his sons. The eldest son then came forward and claimed a double share of the remaining money, doing so on the ground that it was according to Chinese law and custom that he should be given it. The other branches of the family disputed this, and further legal proceedings have been pending. Some time ago it was decided by a Full Court that the issue should be judged by Chinese law and customs, and the Chief Justice is now sitting to judge whether the son of the eldest son (as the eldest son has died) should have a double share of the sum originally set aside for ancestral worship, or whether all the branches should take equal share. The whole point at issue is whether Chinese law and custom entitles the eldest son's successor to claim what he is seeking.

There are many parties represented at the hearing, the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Mr. O. G. Alabaster, Mr. Eldon Potter and Mr. F. C. Jenkins, being the counsel engaged.

At the hearing yesterday, Mr. Pollock opened, and later evidence was given by Mr. S. B. C. Ross, Postmaster-General and formerly District Officer in the New Territories, as to the Chinese customs. He stated that it was almost invariably the custom for the eldest son of an intestate father to take two shares of the property, but he did not think that that applied all over China. In the present case the elders of the deceased's village would have dealt with the estate according to the local law and customs.

This morning, Mr. Eldon Potter, who is appearing for the eldest branch claiming the two shares, addressed his Lordship on the question of custom, contending that his client was entitled to a double share.

The hearing was again adjourned.

determined to do its best for the men who fought for it. The whole problem of demobilisation—getting men out of the army in efficient and sympathetic manner.

We have a Minister of Reconstruction and a Minister of Pensions and hundreds of public bodies and organisations whose whole business is concerned with the future of the soldier. New schemes are being continually launched to make life worth living—after the war. The latest was before the House of Commons last week. It provided for the construction of 300,000 houses for the working classes at the public expense. Each house is to contain a living room, a parlour, a scullery and three bedrooms. There will never be more than twelve houses to the acre and in the country only eight. (In some parts of London today there are 60 houses to the acre!) Valuable prizes are being offered for the best designs and the whole thing is well on its way to being an accomplished fact, instead of a mere dream. England should indeed be a better place to live in.

"OLD CROCK."

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph".]

TYphoon WARNINGS.

[To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph".]

Sir,—The readings of an Ordinary Aneroid barometer were of much more value than the information conveyed by the signals during the approach of the recent typhoon. Doubtless the lack of returns from the Philippines was largely responsible for this. The Press, however, did its best in giving us the position of the blow from time to time. The latest, in this morning's paper, gives us Lat 240 N., Long 1150 E. as the position, where the typhoon is filling up! Lat 190 N. and Long 122 E. is also given as a previous position.

Yours etc.,
SPECTATOR,
Hongkong, July 2nd, 1918.

MESSAGE FROM BOTTOM OF SEA.

Thrilling Story of Mishap to Submarine.

The rescue of the crew of a submarine from the bottom of the sea is the subject of a thrilling tale told in the London Gazette by the announcement of the posthumous award of the Albert Medal in gold to Commander Francis H. H. Goodhart, D.S.O., R.N.

Owing to an accident, the submarine became fast on the bottom in 38 feet of water, parts of the vessel becoming flooded. After several hours the only prospect of saving those remaining on board appeared to be for someone to escape from the submarine in order to concert measures with the rescuers, who were by this time present on the surface.

Commander Goodhart, after consultation with the commanding officer, volunteered to make the attempt. After placing in his belt a tin cylinder, with instructions for the rescuers, he went into the conning tower with the commanding officer. The conning tower was flooded up to their waists, and the high-pressure air was turned on; the clips of the conning tower were knocked off and the conning tower lid was soon wide open.

Commander Goodhart then stood up in the dome, took a deep breath, and made his escape, but, unfortunately, was blown by the pressure of air against parts of the superstructure, and was killed by the force of the blow.

The commanding officer, whose intention it had been to return inside the submarine after Commander Goodhart's escape was involuntarily forced to the surface by the air pressure, and it was thus rendered possible for the plans for rescuing those still inside the submarine to be carried out.

Commander Goodhart displayed extreme and heroic daring in attempting to escape from the submarine in order to save the lives of those remaining on board, and thoroughly realised the forlorn nature of his act. His last remark to the commanding officer was: "If I don't get up, the tin cylinder will."

RELIEF FOR CHINA'S HOMELESS.

Li Sum Ling's Mission to Manila.

Li Sum Ling, counsellor to the Minister of Finance of China and formerly auditor of the "Five Power Loan," has arrived in Manila from Peking where he comes to have a conference with Governor General Harrison concerning public subscriptions to "The North China Flood Relief Committee."

Mr. Li Sum Ling in commenting on his mission and affairs in China said (according to the *Manila Bulletin*). "There are now 5,000,000 people in North China who are homeless and without food owing to the fact that their lands have been flooded. The damage to property and crops amounts to millions of pesos. These people are really in dire distress and any help afforded them at this time will be deeply appreciated by the inhabitants and the Peking government. I fully intend to take this matter up with Governor General Harrison during this week. The Filipinos, Americans and foreigners in the Philippines have already given some assistance to the sufferers."

The Peking government is now trying to get mediators to bring about peace between the northern and southern leaders and I am of the opinion that this matter will be adjusted in a very short time.

Peking can now boast of two English dailies, managed and edited by Chinese journalists who have been educated in the United States.

All the German teachers in the employ of the Chinese government have been dismissed and practically all the German businesses are now the property of the government. The former president of China now living in a beautiful building in the German concession at Tientsin.

A large group of Chinese journalists will visit the Philippines next year on their way to Sydney, Australia, to attend The World Press Conference."

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NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	"Tango Maru" T. 13,500	SAT., 20th
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		SATURDAY, 17th Aug.

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s.s. "KIYÔ MARU."

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PORTS.

The above named steamer having arrived, consignees of cargo are hereby notified to send in their Bills of Lading for counter-signature, and to take immediate delivery from alongside.

Cargo remaining undelivered on 3rd July, 1918, at 5 P.M. will be landed at consignees' risk and expense, and delivery must then be taken from the Company's Godown.

Storage charges will be assessed on all cargo remaining undelivered on 6th July, 1918, at 5 P.M.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.

No Claim will be recognised after the goods have left the Steamer or Godown.

All chafed and damaged cargo will be landed into the Company's Godown, where it will be examined on 8th July, 1918, at 10 A.M.

No Claim will be recognised if filed after the 15th July, 1918.

T. DAIGO,
Manager.

Hongkong, 30th June, 1918.

CONSIGNEES

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SHIP LINES LTD.

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From SEATTLE AND
YOKOHAMA

THE Steamship

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Storage charges will be assessed on all cargo remaining undelivered on 8th July 1918, at 5 P.M.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.

No Claim will be recognised after the Goods has left the Steamer or Godown.

All chafed and damaged cargo will be landed into the Company's Godown, where they will be examined on 8th July, 1918, at 10 A.M.

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T. DAIGO,
Manager.

Hongkong, 2nd July, 1918.

HONGKONG STORM SIGNAL CODE. (LOCAL).
Introduced on 1st JULY, 1917.

DAY SIGNALS.

SIGNAL SYMBOL	MEANING
1. ▲ (RED)	A typhoon exists which may possibly cause gale at Hongkong within 24 hours.
2. ▲	Gale expected from the North (N.W. to N.E.)
3. ▲	South (S.E. to S.W.)
4. ▲	East (N.E. to S.E.)
5. ▲	West (N.W. to S.W.)
6. ▲	Gale expected to increase.
7. ▲	Wind of typhoon force expected (any direction).

Signal No. 1 is followed as a warning by "Stand By" and watch for the next signal. When it is hoisted after a black signal has been displayed, it is followed by one or more of a change in the track of the typhoon, or for other reasons, a gale is no longer expected from the direction indicated by the last signal, and that another black signal may possibly be hoisted later.

Water Pulse Station will be discontinued, and the signals will be hoisted at intervals of 10 seconds at the Water Pulse Station.

The Signal will be lowered when it is considered that all danger is over.

The Signal will be displayed at the masthead of the storm signal mast on Blackhead Hill, the Harbour Office, H.M.C. and the Signal mast, the flagstaff on the premises of the Standard Oil Company at Kai-chai-tok, and the flagstaff near the Flag Officer's Quarters at Lyman.

The Night Signals will be displayed at sunset, the tower of the Railway Station, on H.M.C. Tower, or on the flagstaff of the Signal mast.

Signal No. 7 will be followed by the same signals as the day signals.

Conveyed by this signal being first displayed at night.

NIGHT SIGNALS. (Lamps.)

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
WHITE	WHITE	GREEN	GREEN	WHITE	GREEN	RED
WHITE	GREEN	WHITE	GREEN	WHITE	GREEN	RED
WHITE	GREEN	WHITE	WHITE	GREEN	GREEN	RED

The Night Signals will be displayed at sunset, the tower of the Railway Station, on H.M.C. Tower, or on the flagstaff of the Signal mast.

They will have the same significance as the day signals.

Further details can always be given to ocean vessels, on demand, by signal from lighthouses.

To notify the fact to marine credit and passing ocean vessels.

Further details can always be given to ocean vessels, on demand, by signal from lighthouses.

SUPPLEMENTARY WARNINGS.

When local signals are displayed in the Harbour a CONE will be exhibited at the following stations—

SAP ROCK, WAGLAN, STATION, ABERDEEN.

SAU KI WAN, SAI KUNG, SHIA TAU KOK, TAI PO.

to notify the fact to marine credit and passing ocean vessels.

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HONGKONG CONSCRIPTION.

TRIBUNAL MEETS FOR FIRST TIME.

Some of the Cases Considered
To-day.

The Hongkong General Military Service Tribunal held its first sitting this afternoon at 3.30 o'clock in the Council Chamber. There were one or two members of the general public present and a full attendance of members of the Tribunal. The Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp (Chairman of the Tribunal) presided, and the other members present were:—The Hon. Mr. David Landale, Mr. W. Adamson, Mr. G. S. Archibald, Commander Beckwith, R.N., Mr. T. F. Hough, Mr. A. O. Lang, Lieut. Col. Passby, O.R.A., and Mr. G. M. Young, with Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher (Clerk of the Tribunal).

Chartered Bank Cases.

The first cases considered were those of servants of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, and the agenda for the afternoon showed that Messrs. L. H. Lovely, W. J. Austin, J. R. Irvine and W. J. Morrison had all been declared medically fit. The following men of military age have been rejected as unfit for service:—Messrs. C. F. Maltby, J. Gibb, and H. Matheson.

Mr. T. C. Downing, the local manager of the Bank, appeared and stated that none of the fit men could be spared. Replying to questions by Mr. Sharp, he stated that there had been no reduction of the staff since the outbreak of the war, nine being employed now as then. There were six sub-accountants. He did not think that by a re-arrangement of the staff men could be spared, and even if they were they would be wanted elsewhere. There was no allowance for illness or sickness. With regard to the question of substitution, any appointment would have to rest with London, and if a substitute were not competent he would have to be trained by another man.

The Chairman said he understood that three junior officers had recently arrived from London, via America, but Mr. Downing said these men were destined for Calcutta and Singapore. The Portuguese and Chinese staff had been increased a little since the outbreak of war, but a further increase would not affect the number of Englishmen to be spared.

Asked if the men concerned had anything to say, Mr. Lovely stated that the pre-war staff were the same not only in Hongkong, but in Shanghai, Yokohama, Hankow and Tientsin. As a matter of fact, the figures were Hongkong 9 as compared with 9, Shanghai 9 as compared with 9, Tientsin 4 with 4, Hankow 2 with 3, Yokohama 6 with 6, and Peking 2 with 2 now. The staffs had been increased in two instances. Mr. Lovely added that if the Tribunal would not consider his case as a member of the Chartered Bank, would they consider it as resigned from the Chartered Bank?

Mr. Downing then read a copy of a telegram he had received from London, which stated that the staff of the Bank had been reduced by 45 men since the outbreak of the war; five men had died; 13 had resigned; two had been invalided and two others had joined the Army. Six new men had been appointed since 1914, five being discharged soldiers, an average of about sixty for the similar preceding period.

Asked to explain the increases in Hankow and Peking, Mr. Downing said that it was only accidental that the staff at Hankow at the outbreak of the war should have been low, and it was now only normal; the increase at Peking had resulted from the opening of an office, instead of only having a representative there.

Mr. Lovely:—The extra clerk in the North was only needed for the tea season, but he is being kept on.

Mr. Downing:—We are short staffed in India and Kobe.

HOW DO YOU SLEEP?

Position Shows Your Chair etc.

If you are anxious to know your real character—not that which you assume as ye a strut before men, or even before yourself in your concealed moments—figure out your nature & position as you sleep. The index is furnished by Mr. John Patterson, who looks after the health and care of the wonderful animal family of Barnum and Bailey's circus, which is now housed in Philadelphia.

"Bears, which have no fear, sleep in any position," he told the *Public Ledger*. "The same is true of wolves. Animals of a cunning or cowardly nature, however, are always on the alert even when asleep."

"The lion, when the excitement of the day, is over stretches itself out on its side, with its paws turned in, and twitches like a big dog. Gorillas and chimpanzees sleep with their hands over their heads."

"A seal sleeps like a human being. It stretches out at full length and enters dreamland on its back, stomach or side. Once in a while the seal will sit up, with its head bent down on its chest, fast asleep in the water, with its ears under, so, as is his custom in his native state, that he may bear the approach of an enemy, sound travelling with great distinctness under water."

"Elephants sleep upright, like a horse, and faithfully. They are keenly alert to the slightest noise and quick to sense things. If they can see the object they do not rattle easily, but if it is something weird sounding and out of sight they need the reassuring voice of their keeper. With the elephant the voice is everything. They have the same feeling for a friendly, sincere voice that a natural musician has for the sound of a musical voice."

Fourteen New Dry Docks.

Washington, June 26.—The Senate has passed the sundry civil bill providing appropriations of \$2,500,000,000. It includes a vote of \$25,000,000 for fourteen new drydocks. The measure now goes to a conference committee of both Houses. The House has passed the five and a half billion dollar appropriation bill providing for an army of 3,000,000 men.

Mr. Lovely:—Kobe is a place where the senior officers are putting their shoulders to the wheel.

During the course of further questions, Mr. Downing stated that only the Canton and Foochow offices were controlled from Hongkong, and that owing to the closing of the Foochow tea market it might be that the Foochow office would soon be closed.

Major Morgan, Proper Military Authority, stated that he thought that two men could be spared from the Bank.

The Tribunal then considered the cases, on their merits, in camera.

After consideration, the Chairman announced that Mr. Lovely should be called up for service, but if as regards Mr. Irvine inconvenience would be caused, temporary exemption would be granted in his case.

Mr. Downing asked if he would be allowed to appeal, and he was informed that he would.

Other Cases.

The following cases of medically fit men were also to be considered this afternoon, but had not been concluded when we went to press:—

Lane, Crawford & Co.—E. E. Bridger.

Mercantile Bank—C. Chapman and E. Kennedy.

Y.M.C.A.—G. F. Turner.

Kelly and Walsh—J. H. Mead and V. C. Labram.

Unit.

It was also stated that the following men had been rejected as unfit for service, and their cases did not therefore come before the Tribunal:—

Lane, Crawford & Co.—A. N. Boots, A. E. Crispell, K. M. Crawford, E. J. Aimale, G. W. Avenue.

Mercantile Bank—E. L. Sim

COMPANY MEETING.

Hongkong Steel Foundry
Co. Ltd.

(VEREATUM).

The eighth ordinary general meeting of the Hongkong Steel Foundry, Co. Ltd., was held this morning at the offices of the Company, St. George's Building. Mr. A. G. Gordon presided and there were also present Mr. J. F. Fisher (acting secretary), Messrs. E. J. Chapman, C. D. Wilkinson, W. Logan, M. S. Northcote, R. Rodger, A. Keating, M. W. Mark, Yoon Cheong, P. Foster, P. O. Potts, E. E. Ellis, E. M. Raymond, and Henderson (shareholders).

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said:—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some time, I will follow the usual course and with your permission take them as read. The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, allowing for depreciation on Company's plant, machinery, launches, and stock-in-trade, and including the amount carried forward from last year, is \$55,981.16. Your General Managers propose to deal with this amount as follows:—

To pay a dividend of \$1.00 per share ...	\$ 7,808.00
To pay a bonus of \$1.00 per share ...	7,808.00
To Write off Patent Process Rights ...	21,369.56
To Pay a Bonus to Staff ...	1,860.00
To Place to Reserve Fund ...	10,000.00
To carry forward to credit of next year's account ...	7,135.60
	\$55,981.16

This appropriation we hope meet with your approval:

When last I addressed you, I mentioned that further additions to our furnaces and other improvements were being undertaken. Considerable progress has been made with this development during the year. Two new sets of radio furnaces have been installed, making in all ten double sets in operation at present, and we intend laying out one or two sets of forced draught patent furnaces at an early date, full working, drawings for which are now on the way from England. The works have been extremely busy during the year, and amongst the orders on hand, the Company have been engaged on heavy castings for the standardised Government ships. We were rather doubtful as to whether we could accomplish the severe tests of material required by the Admiralty, and you will be pleased to know we have succeeded. We are indebted to the courtesy and assistance given by the management of the Taikoo and Kowloon Docks, which enabled us to accomplish these satisfactory results.

Ingot Steel.—We experimented on this class of work during the year, with very satisfactory results, and if the Foundry is at any time in lack of orders, the making of soft ingot steel will be a profitable source of revenue, so that future prospects are very encouraging.

Patent Process.—The \$21,369.56 mentioned in the auditors report last year has now been written off. The Company has every reason to be congratulated on securing the rights of this asset, for had it not done so the Foundry would have had to close down for want of supplies from home. Amongst other things it enables us to make our own flux for the fusion of scrap with other metals, independently of outside resources.

Land and Buildings.—These have been purchased by the Company on very favourable terms, and so we shall be enabled to extend our plant from time to time as the development of the casting department justifies, and until such time as the larger scheme is further advanced, when the whole will be combined as one concern. We have paid out of profits \$5,000 on taking over this property, and the small mortgage of \$5,000 standing as a liability in last year's accounts has also been paid off during the current year. We propose to pay a bonus to the staff of 20%—\$1,880, of which I am sure you will approve. It is to the efforts of our staff we owe the satisfactory results of the

year's working and especially to our works superintendent, who has given so much of his extra time in the Company's interest; and, in recommending this bonus, we feel sure we have the support of every shareholder.

The Outlook.—Our position is somewhat similar to that of last year, with the additional advantage that negotiations are in progress for the development of this concern. There are, unquestionably, large deposits of iron ore, coal, limestone, and wolfram available in the neighbouring Province, and I have no doubt whatsoever that a concession can be arranged to give Hongkong a steady supply of these articles. I can give no data as regards the quantity of coal or iron or in sight; but I know from written offers which have been made, that Chinese mine-owners are prepared to contract for the supply to this Company of all coal and iron ore required. I have not personally possessed the necessary time to enable me to inspect, with an expert, the various coal and iron fields from which it has been proposed to supply the articles, but I have strong reason to believe that these are situated at no great distance from Hongkong, and close to waterways.

Wolfram.—From official reports a new development of interests has resulted by the growing demand of this ore, and the recent discovery that the mineral is to be found in marketable quantities in Kwangtung Province. It is said that the natives mistook it for manganese ore, or iron ore, until a suspicion was raised by the high prices offered, that it must contain something different from common metals. The Japanese first learned of the value of the "iron ore" in Hunan Province, and offered about 27 cents Mexican, or 17 cents gold, a pound for it; other buyers learned of the bargain and offered better prices. At the end of 1917 the average commanded about 50 Mexican or \$32 gold per hundred pounds. There seems to be considerable difference of opinion as to what effect this new supply from South China will have upon the market. One buyer expresses the opinion that, with a proper development of the South China fields, the available supply of tungsten in the world can be increased by at least 20%, while shipments have so far been considerably. The actual development of the fields as indicated has not yet commenced.

Capital.—Our appeal locally for increased capital to meet the demand for extension of plant, did not meet with sufficient encouragement, and the amount necessary to enable us to go to allotment was not subscribed. Your General Managers, though naturally disappointed, were by no means depressed by the fact. The appeal we made has evidently reached the outside world, for numerous offers of capital, and other proposals, have been made which will doubtless lead to beneficial results, not only for the Company, but also for the colony. The one end only drawback to this encouraging outlook is the internal strife existing amongst Chinese officialdom, which retards any progress, and calls for patience, but we can rest well satisfied that when the time comes we are prepared to commence operations, and have no doubt that pressure (if not before, certainly after the war) will be brought to bear by one or the other of the countries interesting themselves in this matter.

In conclusion, perhaps I might mention, that your General Managers have been asked of the feasibility of standardised concrete ships being built in this colony, and how far our Company could assist in such an undertaking. In consequence, we have consulted with gentlemen of practical experience, whose opinions on such matters are the highest in the colony, and who have gone thoroughly into details of the subject. With the available material at present on hand it is considered by them to be feasible, in fact it is contemplated to build one such vessel of about 1,000 to 1,500 tons. This being done, will prove that Hongkong is keeping well in line with the latest production in shipbuilding, still, for want of regular guaranteed supplies of raw material, no further advance can, it is considered be made, in this direction.

For the present, such would not have been the case had our appeal of last year been responded to. The estimates we then laid before the meeting were for a plant to supply an output of 3,000 tons per month of manufactured material. After that

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MR. BALFOUR ON BELGIAN RE-BIRTH.

Four Years of Slow, Callous,
Calculated Torture.

Mr. Balfour presided recently at a dinner given by the

